

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 170177

E.O. ,1652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, US

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN PLANNING TALKS

1. AS EMBASSY IS DOUBTLESS AWARE, THE PLANNING AND ANALYSIS DIVISION IS AFTER US TO SET FIRM DATES FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF PLANNING TALKS. HAVING INCLUDED A LINE ITEM IN THEIR BUDGET TO COVER EXPENSES FOR TWO SESSIONS IN THIS FISCAL YEAR, THEY ARE CLEARLY EAGER TO HAVE THE NEXT ROUND IN EARLY FALL. THUS THE MFA RECENTLY PROPOSED TWO ALTERNATIVE SETS OF DATES TO US: (A) SOMETIME DURING THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER 15-21, OR (B) AROUND OCTOBER 10. THEY ALSO INDICATED THEIR INTEREST IN DEVOTING TWO OF THE AGENDA TOPICS TO A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE MID-TERM FOREIGN POLICY PROSPECTS FOR THE US AND JAPAN RESPECTIVELY, WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO IDENTIFYING KEY MID-RANGE ISSUES.

2. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORM MR. MATANO OR MR. NOMURA THAT WE ARE AGREEABLE TO HOLDING THE TALKS IN THE OCTOBER 10 TIME-
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FRAME. WE PREFER TO AVOID IF POSSIBLE TALKS ON THE WEEK

ENDS--NOT LEAST DUE TO THE DIFFICULTIES OF SECURING ACCOMMODATIONS AT CONFERENCE FACILITIES DURING THE BICENTENNIAL YEAR. AS USUAL WE WOULD EXPECT THE TALKS TO CONSIST OF TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS PLUS A HALF DAY OF SIGHTSEEING IN THE WASHINGTON AREA. AT THE MOMENT THE OCTOBER 6-8

TIMEFRAME LOOKS MOST PROMISING, BUT WE WILL HAVE TO HOLD OFF ON NAILING DOWN THE SPECIFIC DATES UNTIL WE CAN ASCERTAIN THAT SUITABLE ACCOMMODATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED ON THOSE DAYS.

3. AS FOR THE AGENDA, WE AGREE THAT A MID-RANGE LOOK AT OUR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN POLICY AGENDAS AND PROSPECTS COULD BE INTERESTING. BUT WE SHOULD LIKE TO LEARN IN SOMEWHAT GREATER DETAIL HOW THE MFA PLANNERS WOULD ENVISAGE HANDLING SUCH A BROAD SUBJECT. WITHOUT NARROWING ITS SCOPE SOMEWHAT, WE COULD WIND UP DEALING AT A HIGHER LEVEL OF GENERALITY THAN MIGHT BE PRODUCTIVE. IS THE JAPANESE OBJECTIVE TO GET A BETTER FIX ON THE CONTINUITIES AND POTENTIAL DISCONTINUITIES WE BOTH FACE OVER THE NEXT 2-3 YEARS IN OUR FOREIGN POLICIES? IF SO, IS THERE SOME WAY OF GETTING AT THIS MORE DIRECTLY THAN THROUGH EACH SIDE'S PRESENTATION OF A GLOBAL TOUR D'HORIZON? WE HAVE NO FIXED IDEAS ON THIS AT PRESENT, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE SOME FURTHER ELABORATION OF WHAT NOMURA, MATANO, ET. AL. HAVE IN MIND. IN SHORT, WE ARE ATTRACTED BY THE IDEA IF WE CAN REDUCE IT TO MANAGEABLE DIMENSIONS.

4. IN SUCH A GENERAL DISCUSSION OR PERHAPS UNDER THE RUBRIC OF OTHER AGENDA ITEMS, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THESE SUBJECTS:

-- CLOSER COLLABORATION AMONG THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES. HERE WE WOULD ANTICIPATE A SHARING OF ASSESSMENTS OF PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES WE FACE IN COORDINATING POLICIES ON NORTH-NORTH, NORTH-SOUTH, AND EAST-WEST ISSUES WITH OUR OECD PARTNERS.

-- DOUBTLESS OUR RESPECTIVE APPROACHES TO THE RUSSIANS AND CHINESE WILL COME UP IN THE COURSE OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSSIONS. ONE SPECIFIC FEATURE WHICH MAY BE WORTHY OF HIGHLIGHTING IS EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THERE ARE TWO DIMENSIONS TO THIS: (1) OUR RESPECTIVE BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES, AND (2) THEIR ROLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM.

-- POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS AND POLICY ISSUES WE FACE IN SELECTED THIRD WORLD AREAS- WE DEVOTED A FAIR

AMOUNT OF ATTENTION TO SOME OF THESE ISSUES IN SHIMODA--
PARTICULARLY OUR RESPECTIVE ROLES ON SOUTHEAST ASIA.
THIS TIME WE MIGHT KEY THE DISCUSSION TO AREAS THAT HAVE
RECEIVED LESS ATTENTION IN RECENT PLANNING TALKS, AFRICA,
LATIN AMERICA, AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

5. AT THIS STAGE WE ARE NOT COMMITTED TO PARTICULAR
AGENDA TOPICS, BUT REQUEST THAT YOU DRAW THEM OUT FURTHER
ON THEIR PROPOSALS, INVITE MFA VIEWS ON THE TOPICS LISTED
IN PARA. 4, AND ELICIT ANY ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS THEY
MAY HAVE. WE WOULD EXPECT TO BE BACK TO THEM IN A WEEK
OR SO TO NAIL DOWN THE AGENDA AS WELL AS COMMITMENTS TO
PREPARE PAPERS. INCIDENTALLY WE WOULD EXPECT AS USUAL
TO DEVOTE AN EVENING TO A DISCUSSION OF DOMESTIC
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS.

6. FYI WE ARE LOOKING AT WILLIAMSBURG, BELMONT,
HOMESTEAD, CACAPON SPRINGS, W.VA., AND THE DONALDSON/BROWN
ESTATE IN BALTIMORE COUNTY AS POSSIBLE SITES FOR THE
TALKS. KISSINGER

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